

Mary Lou Terrien

From: Margaret Werderits <lolamissdog@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 4:57 PM
To: Mary Lou Terrien
Subject: bill 5232 on historic preservation adjustments

We in the Cherry Hill Historic district and Heritage Hill Historic district are not in favor of the bill 5232. First of all we do not want all of Grand Rapids to decide what we do in our neighborhoods since they do not live here and most likely do not wish to have them decide on the fate of some of our lovely old buildings. Furthermore I feel as if it is not individuals that are behind this bill but developers trying to move in. We have had one such event approx. two years ago when a developer purchased a vacant lot and empty building in our Cherry Hill Historic neighborhood. They would have built two large apt buildings that towered over the existing houses and were totally out of character architecturally. Our small neighborhood association objected and we finally came to some sort of compromise on what sort of structures should be built. I believe that developers would like to come in and tear down what they wish because this is an area that is close to the city center where people wish to live. They have no regard for the old historical buildings that have been lovingly been restored by people who wish to preserve the great architecture and craftsmanship of the past. We need to preserve what we have left and as long as the historical districts exist the way they are and those who wish to build tall apt. buildings may do so at some other site. Whoever wishes to change the rules I believe has some alterier motive in mind and I believe it has mostly to do with lining their own pockets. There are many who disagree with this bill and they should be prepared because they will be going up against some very passionate people who are willing to fight to keep the Historic Districts as they are. Sincerely , Margaret Werderits Resident of the Cherry Hill Historic district in Grand Rapids, MI

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